

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended): A food storage container comprising:

a base having a base bottom panel with an upper side, a lower side, and a base perimeter, and having a cylindrical side wall extending generally upward from ~~and around~~ the base perimeter, the side wall terminating at a top edge and defining an open top;

a lid having a top panel with a top side, a bottom side, and a lid perimeter; and

~~a nesting structure provided at least in part on a portion of the base bottom panel and at least in part on a portion of the lid top panel, the nesting structure adapted for registering a portion of removably nesting the lower side of the base with a portion of the lid top panel both when the lid is in either a standard lid orientation or and when the lid is in an inverted lid orientation, the nesting structure part on the lid top panel including,~~

a recessed surface formed in the lid top panel and defining an annular shoulder extending between the recessed surface and the lid top panel, the annular shoulder having a step therein forming a first shoulder portion and a second shoulder portion, the first and second shoulder portions providing the nesting structure part on the lid top panel when in the respective lid orientations.

2. (currently amended): A food storage container according to claim 1, wherein the base is nestable with other bases of other containers to form a base stack, and wherein an exposed lower most base of the base stack is ~~removably nestable to~~ registerable with the lid in either lid orientation.

3. (currently amended): A food storage according to claim 1, wherein the lid is nestable with other lids of other containers to form a lid

stack, and wherein a selected one of an upper most exposed lid and a lower most exposed lid of the lid stack is ~~removably nestable to registerable with the lower side of the eontainer base.~~

4. (currently amended): A food storage container according to claim 2, wherein the lid is nestable with other lids of other containers to form a lid stack, and wherein a selected one of an upper most exposed lid and a lower most exposed lid of the lid stack is ~~removably nestable to registerable with the exposed lower most base of the base stack.~~

5. (original): A food storage container according to claim 1, wherein the side wall is a generally circular cylinder.

6. (original): A food storage container according to claim 5, wherein the side wall is at least a slightly frusto-conical circular cylinder.

7. (original): A food storage container according to claim 1, wherein the side wall is a generally rectangular cylinder.

8. (currently amended): A food storage container according to claim 1, wherein the ~~nesting structure comprises:~~ recessed surface is a downwardly recessed surface in the top panel relative to the standard orientation[;], and wherein the nesting structure part of the base is a depending an annular element shoulder wall extending around the recessed surface; extending downward from the base bottom panel that can rest on a selected one of a step top surface or a step bottom surface provided between the first and second shoulder portions.

~~a step in the shoulder wall forming a step top surface that faces upward in the standard orientation, and a step bottom surface that faces upward in the inverted orientation; and~~

~~a depending element extending downward from the base bottom panel that can rest on a selected one of the step top surface or the step bottom surface.~~

9. (currently amended): A food storage container according to claim 8, wherein the depending annular element is a rib extending from the lower side of the bottom panel.

10. (currently amended): A food storage container according to claim 8, wherein the lower side of the bottom panel has an upwardly recessed section defining a leg as the depending annular element as a leg in the lower side between the recessed section and the base perimeter.

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)
